

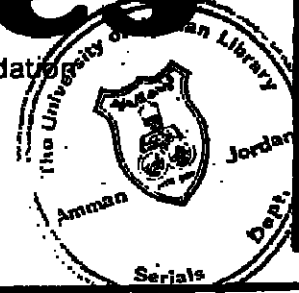
OIC prepares bid to end Gulf war

BAHRAIN (R) — An Islamic mission trying to end the war between Iran and Iraq is consulting among its members on a fresh bid to end the 28-month-old conflict, the official Saudi Press Agency reported Sunday. It quoted Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretary-General Habib Chatti as telling the Saudi newspaper Al Riyadh: "The committee is determined to go ahead with its peace efforts whatever the results." Previous mediation efforts by the OIC, the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement have all failed to end the Gulf war, which has cost thousands of lives and billions of dollars. The last OIC effort in October ended in failure because, Mr. Chatti said shortly afterwards, it coincided with a new Iranian offensive.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز روزانه سياسي عربي مستقل منشور من مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"



PNC to meet in Algiers on Feb. 14

PARIS (R) — Palestinian commando leader Yasser Arafat has announced that the next meeting of the Palestine National Council, or parliament-in-exile, will begin on February 14 in Algiers, the Algerian News Agency APS said. Mr. Arafat attended celebrations at Tebessa, near the Tunisian border, Saturday to mark the 18th anniversary of the start of the Palestinian armed struggle.

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90-kg bomb found near Irish border

BELFAST (R) — British army experts exploded a 90 kilogramme bomb built into a roadside wall near the border with the Irish Republic in South Armagh Saturday night, police reported.

They said the explosive had been packed into two milk churns and hidden inside a stone wall near the village of Forkhill in the strongly republican area.

This was the second bomb found close to the border in three days. The army defused a bomb consisting of 250 kilogrammes of explosives packed in five beer kegs under a road in county Fermanagh on Thursday.

Police also said they had opened fire Saturday night on two men who ran off apparently unscathed when their car was stopped at a roadblock in Londonderry.

Mrs. Gandhi throws her weight into local polls

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, under challenge from a film star turned politician, has thrown the full weight of her personal prestige and political skill into her party's campaign to win local elections being held on Wednesday. The regional assembly elections are being held in three Indian states at a time when the 65-year-old prime minister's standing is running high internationally, but her policies are being increasingly questioned at home. The states, with a total population of 80 million, include her southern strongholds of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh as well as the Marxist-ruled remote north-east region of Tripura, plagued by tribal unrest.

Japan's divorce rate reaches peak

TOKYO (R) — Japan's divorce rate reached a post-war record in 1982 of 1.4 couples per thousand population, up from 1.32 last year, according to the annual report of the ministry of health and welfare released. Ministry officials said Japan's divorce rate was now nearly level with France and Sweden, but still well below the United States where the rate was about five couples per thousand people.

Bomb explodes in Haitian capital

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — A car, thought to contain a bomb, exploded near the Haitian presidential palace here early Saturday killing one passer-by, sources close to the government said. There was no official confirmation of the incident and all debris had been cleared away when reporters visited the scene.

Beijing Review caking about past

PEKING (R) — China's official weekly Beijing (Peking) Review apologized to readers for deliberately misinforming them during the Cultural Revolution and promised to tell the truth in future. During the 1966-76 period, the English language publication said in a New Year message, its best editors were forced to work full time sweeping floors and cleaning toilets. From 1979 it had been trying to put things right, the Review reported, adding: "The tendency to embellish reality, to overstate, or to write without much substantive content has been, may we hope, overcome to a great extent."

Snow hits Jordan Times

The weather conditions made it impossible for the Jordan Times to appear yesterday. They also made it very difficult for us to produce all eight pages today. The Jordan Times regrets this, but we would like to assure our readers and advertisers that every effort is being made to get back to normal work as soon as possible, just like the rest of the country. Again, we wish all of you a happy new year.

—The Editor

Jordan recovering from blizzard

By Afifah Kaloti and Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan worked hard Sunday to recover from the aftermath of a severe blizzard which hit the country during the past two days.

Reports from various parts of the country spoke of accidents, traffic jams, poor visibility and thousands of people stranded as the meteorological department gave an optimistic forecast for today, Monday.

The department said Sunday the amount of snow fell reached a maximum of one metre high.

Dr. Ali Abanda, director of the department told the Jordanian News Agency (Petra), that Monday's weather will improve to be partly cloudy accompanied by the fall of slight rains in the eastern and southern parts of the country.

Fog will be formed in the hilly areas and wind speed will gradually decrease, Dr. Abanda said.

He added that the low depression, which affected Jordan during the past two days, moved to the east accompanied by very high atmospheric pressure.

Throughout the past 48 hours, the Departments of Public Security, Civil Defence, Public Works, the Amman Municipality and the Armed Forces cooperated together to clear blocked roads.

The cabinet, convened at its regular session Sunday, arrangements taken by government departments to deal with the situation resulting from the prevailing

weather conditions.

Petra said the cabinet expressed satisfaction with measures taken by these departments to handle accidents, clear roads and restore normal life.

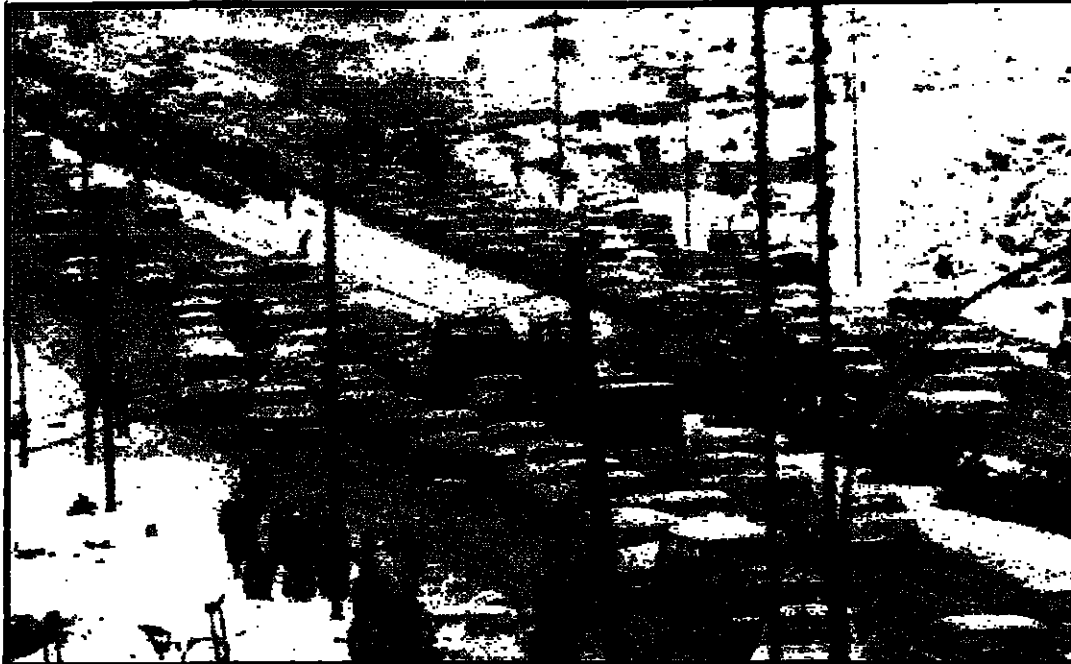
Civil Defence officials were quoted as saying Sunday that almost all roads in the country have been cleared up from snow and their department's rescue teams were still working to open the remaining roads in cooperation with armed forces and public security.

During the snowstorm, the officials said, no major accidents occurred but warned people against touching electric wires damaged by stormy winds.

In addition to clearing main (as well as the side) roads, the Public Security cleared culverts to prevent accumulation of water, Petra said.

Minister of Public Works Awni Al Wasri Sunday inspected all roads surrounding the capital, and personally supervised maintenance work along the Amman-Salt road.

Petra said Mr. Wasri assured that the ministry's maintenance workers were clearing roads from snow and opening them for normal traffic.



The blizzard, which hit Jordan on Saturday and Sunday, closed many roads to traffic in and outside Amman. The Amman-Sewleh road (above) was

completely blocked on Saturday and many cars and people were stranded but it was reopened to traffic on Sunday (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

The Ministry of Public Works also reported that all roads in Madaba were all cleared and were open for traffic Sunday evening. However, a number of roads in the north of Jordan were reported to be still blocked on Sunday.

Telecommunications Corporation Director Mohammad Shahed Ismail said Sunday that the damage to the telephone network in Amman area was very slight.

He added that snow affected the telephones of the old network. He stressed, however, that the telephone links between various parts of Jordan and other countries were not affected because they are based on a microwave system.

Reports from Zarqa indicated that there were few car accidents and that several makeshift hours collapsed, but there were no casualties.

Zarqa Civil Defence Director Lt-Col. Deeb Al Maani said Sunday that the civil defence committee in the city was working throughout the last two days and is

still on alert. Col. Maani added that the committee decided to take all necessary precautions in case the Zarqa River flooded its banks as a result of melting of the snow. The committee called on the inhabitants of the river banks to take their own precautions as well.

Mr. Rabah Al Akhras, director of Zarqa's electricity company, said that there was no major electricity power failure in the city except for few separate cases "which were promptly handled."

In Ma'an in the south it was reported that three persons were killed Sunday when a heavy lorry with a Kuwaiti licence plate hit their car which was parked at the side of the road.

Eyewitnesses said that the accident was due to poor visibility on the road.

Impact on agriculture

But the snowfall will have a positive impact on agriculture according to Ministry of Agriculture

Under-secretary Salem Al Lawzi. "The snowfall is a good indicator of an increase in agricultural output, for the snow increases reserves of underground water especially dam waters," Dr. Lawzi told the Jordan Times.

The snowfall also indicates an early spring which will solve the problems of cattle breeders in finding pastures and water for their cattle, especially in the eastern areas, he said.

Due to the prevailing weather conditions, however, the Education Ministry issued a statement on Sunday announcing the closure of schools on Monday and Tuesday.

Dr. Moheideen Touk, dean of students affairs at the University of Jordan said that the university will be closed on Monday.

Amman airport reported some delays in a number of flights Saturday and Sunday. It was reported earlier that two airliners from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were diverted to Damascus and Cyprus on Saturday due to poor visibility.

Lebanon, Israel to hold 3rd round of talks today

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese officials hold their third round of talks Monday with Israel on the withdrawal of its invasion force amid reports of continuing shelling between rival Lebanese factions in the northern city of Tripoli.

State-run Beirut Radio said Saturday's heavy clashes between pro-Syrian and anti-Syrian militia groups in Tripoli subsided Sunday into sniping and occasional artillery fire.

Unconfirmed reports said some 30 people were killed in Tripoli, Lebanon's second biggest city which is under the overall control of Syrian peacekeeping troops.

President Amin Gemayel was conferring with Lebanon's negotiating team Sunday night to give final instructions for Monday's talks in the seaside town of

Khalde, south of Beirut, where they opened last Tuesday.

The two sides are deadlocked over Israel's demand to discuss "normalisation" of ties with Lebanon, the order of items on the agenda and the status of a U.S. delegation also attending the talks.

U.S. special envoy Morris Draper, who heads the American team at the negotiations, briefed Lebanon's Foreign Minister Elie Salem on his latest efforts to achieve progress, Beirut Radio said.

Lebanon, which wants the talks to focus on the withdrawal of Israeli troops, fears it may be shunned by fellow Arab states if it accedes to Israeli demands for open borders, trade links and an end to the state of belligerency.

Iraq: Arabs do not want 'destruction' of Israel

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq Sunday released the text of a conversation between President Saddam Hussein and a U.S. congressman in which the Iraqi leader was quoted as accepting—apparently for the first time—Israel's need for security, in the existence of an independent Palestinian state.

The discussion between President Hussein and representative Stephen Solarz, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, took place more than four months ago, on Aug. 25. It was not known why the government decided to publish it now.

During the conversation, President Hussein said he believed in the "existence of an independent Palestinian state accepted by the Palestinians", and added that "it is also necessary to have a state of security for the Israelis".

He told Mr. Solarz: "No single Arab official includes in his policy

now the so-called destruction of Israel or wiping it out of existence, but there is not one Arab who believes in coexistence with an aggressive and expansionist entity."

Iraq has long been seen as one of Israel's most implacable enemies, and diplomats could not recall Iraqi leaders making any previous utterances of the kind made public Sunday.

The discussion took place about two weeks before an Arab summit in Morocco implicitly accepted Israel by calling in a Middle East peace plan for United Nations Security Council guarantees of peace for all states in the region.

The Iraqi leader warned the U.S. not to ask the Palestinians to recognise Israel before Israel recognised Palestinian rights.

President Hussein said the U.S. would "commit a grave mistake if it forced the Arabs to recognise

Israel in the prevailing circumstances, when the Arabs are weak...the U.S. has to seek a solution which does not make the Arabs feel the solution is being imposed on them."

President Hussein revealed that before the Iran-Iraq war broke out in September 1980 Iraqi leaders had discussed the restoration of diplomatic relations with Washington, broken off during the 1967 Middle East war.

"The idea was frozen because we did not want our people to think that we have restored relations because we needed the U.S.," he said.

Iraq felt unsafe about U.S. policy in the region, the president added. "But at the same time we find it in our interest to have an American presence if another foreign big power exists in the region."

'France to maintain nuclear deterrent'

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand said Sunday France would continue to maintain an independent nuclear deterrent and rejected Soviet attempts to draw his country into superpower disarmament talks.

In a televised interview from his country home near Soustons, in south-west France, Mr. Mitterrand said: "To (Soviet leader) Mr. (Yuri) Andropov I can only say listen, discuss what you want with the United States of America, arrange it between yourselves."

Mr. Andropov offered two weeks ago to cut Moscow's medium range missile forces in

Europe to match the number deployed by Britain and France, making it clear the offer would depend on NATO scrapping its planned deployment of 572 Pershing-2 and Cruise weapons from late this year.

"There is no direct relation between the situation of the superpowers and the situation of France," Mr. Mitterrand said in the interview.

He added that U.S.-Soviet disarmament talks due to resume in Geneva this month were not France's business and recalled that France was not part of the military command structure of NATO.

"The negotiations will succeed if the two great powers manage to find a middle point," Mr. Mitterrand said.

France backs the American "zero option", which calls for the scrapping of all Soviet medium-range weapons in return for cancellation of the NATO deployment plan, although officials say this is seen as a starting point for negotiations.

Mr. Mitterrand said France's nuclear force of bombers, land-based and submarine-based missiles was costly but necessary and would be kept above the minimum level required for independent deterrence.

Egypt says relation with Soviet Union improving

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali was quoted Sunday as saying his country's relations with the Soviet Union were improving, but refused to say when full diplomatic ties between Cairo and Moscow could be restored.

Mr. Ali, in an interview with Cairo's mass-circulation newspaper Al Akhbar, said: "Trade and economic ties between Moscow and Cairo are proceeding normally while cultural and technical cooperation is increasing."

Egypt, under the late President Anwar Sadat, expelled the Soviet ambassador and other Soviet diplomats in September 1981, accusing Moscow of inciting sedition in Egypt.

Nearly a decade earlier, Mr. Sadat, assassinated in October, 1981, ordered some 17,000 Soviet military advisers out of Egypt.

"The return of ambassadors to both capitals is a matter which I think will be dealt with at a time both governments deem suitable," Mr. Ali told Al Akhbar without elaborating.

Moscow blames Washington for stalemate at arms talks

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union, in its first major statement on strategic arms limitation since starting negotiations with the United States last June, said Sunday that Washington was responsible for a stalemate at the talks by taking a one-sided approach.

An unsigned article in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda spelt out for the first time for Soviet readers Moscow's negotiating position at the Geneva talks.

The broad outlines of the Soviet proposals became known in the

United States soon after the talks began through press leaks but until now the Kremlin had not given public confirmation.

Pravda said President Reagan and other American political figures had distorted the Soviet proposals: "The Soviet Union considers itself obliged to give, when necessary, a true appraisal of the state of things at the talks. The public has the right to know the truth," it said.

During talks on strategic arms control in the 1970s the Soviet Union generally preferred to keep

its proposals secret and avoided public polemics with the United States.

The decision to go public during the present talks with the Reagan administration appears to reflect growing awareness in Moscow of the importance of winning over public opinion in the United States and Western Europe.

At the parallel Geneva talks on limiting medium-range nuclear arms, the Soviet negotiating position has been backed up by a vigorous propaganda campaign aimed at the Western public and

this approach is likely to be followed as far as the strategic arms talks are concerned.

Pravda said Moscow was offering a stage-by-stage reduction that would cut heavy bombers, land-based and submarine-based intercontinental missiles to 1,800 units on each side. This would be 25 per cent below the level agreed in the 1979 SALT II treaty, which was never ratified but has been observed by both sides.

The Soviet proposal would also cut the number of warheads — not limited under SALT II — to an

equal agreed level. Pravda said this would be a major, radical step towards reducing the threat of nuclear war.

The Soviet plan would freeze American forward-based nuclear systems (FBS) within range of Soviet territory, which Pravda said had a strategic character for the Soviet Union.

Moscow agreed in 1974 to omit forward-based systems from SALT II, but has since insisted that such weapons as the F-111 bomber must be limited.

Badran, Sharif Zaid return from U.S.

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Nujar Badran and the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker returned to Amman Sunday at the end of a visit to the United States.

Mr. Badran and Sharif Zaid were members of a delegation led by His Majesty King Hussein for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and other senior American officials.

Upon their return, they were met by cabinet members, army Chief of Staff, Fathi Abu Taleb and high ranking army officers.

Arafat says PLO will continue military action

CAIRO (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat was quoted Sunday as saying the PLO will continue the "loud politics" of military action against Israel while also supporting bids for Middle East peace.

He told the Egyptian political weekly Rose Al Youssef: "We did not and will not abandon the military option. We consider fighting to be loud politics."

Interviewed in Tunis, the new PLO headquarters site following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last summer, Mr. Arafat said: "We support every constructive aspect in any offered initiative."

On President Reagan's peace plan, he said he was aware the U.S. administration did not intend to apply pressure on Israel to make it more flexible towards the plan.

The proposals called for Palestinian self-government in the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan. Israel has rejected the plan.

During the past three months, Mr. Arafat said, PLO commandos carried out 361 military operations against Israeli troops in southern Lebanon, causing the death or injury of 340 of them.

In remarks aimed at the Arab states, Mr. Arafat said: "Dropping the military option could only result in collapse and surrender."

He criticised them for not using what he called the great opportunity during last summer's war in Lebanon to destroy "the legend of Israel's military might."

"Eight Israeli divisions were involved in the fighting, but not a single Arab bullet was fired," Mr. Arafat said.

Falklands inquiry ends

LONDON (R) — A high-powered inquiry into why Britain was caught off guard by Argentina's capture of the Falkland Islands is complete and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is studying its conclusions, the government said Sunday.

The South Atlantic colony was retaken in June after a 10-week conflict, but the crisis rocked the government and the inquiry was set up to establish if British ministers or officials had been negligent.

The prime minister's office said Mrs. Thatcher, who gave evidence to the six-man committee, was

reading the report this weekend. A spokesman said he understood it was "a substantial document".

It is likely to be made public later this month. Some parts may remain secret for security reasons but Mrs. Thatcher has said she wants as much of it as possible to be released.

The inquiry, chaired by former diplomat and banker Lord Franks, 77, investigated charges that the government ignored warnings that Argentina was preparing an attack and left the islands virtually defenceless.

The inquiry team was regarded as very high-powered.

Unknown gunmen allegedly behead white Zimbabwean

HARARE (R) — A 74-year-old white Zimbabwean farmer was beheaded by his kidnappers shortly after being abducted with his grandson by anti-government rebels, police said Sunday.

First reports of the death Saturday of Benjie Williams said he had been shot as he and his 24-year-old grandson (David Bilang) were force-marched through the bush in the troubled province of Matabeleland.

But a police spokesman at regional headquarters at Nyamandlovu told reporters that the rebels had cut off his head with an axe. A government statement Sunday said that Mr. Williams, who held joint British-Zimbabwean citizenship, had been bayoneted to death. It added that his body was then buried by his kidnappers in a small hill only six kilometres from the scene of the abduction on Friday at Trough Nut mine north of Bulawayo.

There was still no news on the fate of Mr. Bilang despite an intensive air and ground search by security forces.

The kidnappers had made Mr. Williams and his grandson leave notes saying they were being taken hostage to force Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's government to return farms confiscated from the opposition ZAPU Party of Joshua Nkomo.

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HOME NEWS

Malhas: Total 40 people either infected or under observation

Health minister asserts diphtheria under control

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 40 people are either infected by diphtheria or under observation, Health Minister Zuhair Malhas announced here Saturday and said that investigations reveal that those affected had not previously obtained any anti-diphtheria vaccination which had given most Jordanians almost 90 per cent immunity against the disease.

Addressing a press conference, Dr. Malhas said that all staff members at hospitals, household members, schools and other institutions where diphtheria cases are reported will be inoculated.

Iraq donates anti-diphtheria vaccine

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Health Minister Hamid Alloush left for Riyadh Sunday at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan.

During the visit, Dr. Alloush presented the Health Ministry with a big quantity of vaccines against diphtheria as a gift from the Iraqi Health Ministry.

While in Riyadh, Dr. Alloush will attend meetings of health ministers of Arab Gulf countries as well as of the executive council of Arab health ministers. The Iraqi minister was seen off at the airport by Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, senior Health Ministry officials and Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan.

but the Health Ministry has no plans for carrying out a nationwide inoculation campaign against diphtheria.

The ministry, in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), has taken all necessary arrangements for pursuing its national inoculation against diphtheria, especially for those who had missed it in the past, particularly children, Dr. Malhas said.

He said that there is no need for worry about the disease which has caused the death of two girls, and the ministry will continue with its programme of inoculating babies against the disease.

At his press conference, Dr. Malhas also spoke about the newly established Jordanian Medical Council (JMC). He said that the council has been established with the purpose of improving medical services and for laying down basic principles and courses for training doctors and specialists in the country.

The JMC has recently conducted tests for 148 newly-graduated doctors with 24 specialisations.

The JMC, headed by the health minister, is made up of the president of the Jordanian Medical Association, the director of the Armed Forces Royal Medical Services, the dean of the University of Jordan's Faculty of Medicine and a doctor from the public sector.

Dr. Malhas also reviewed services offered to the public by Al Bashir Hospital in Amman and current programmes for improving them.

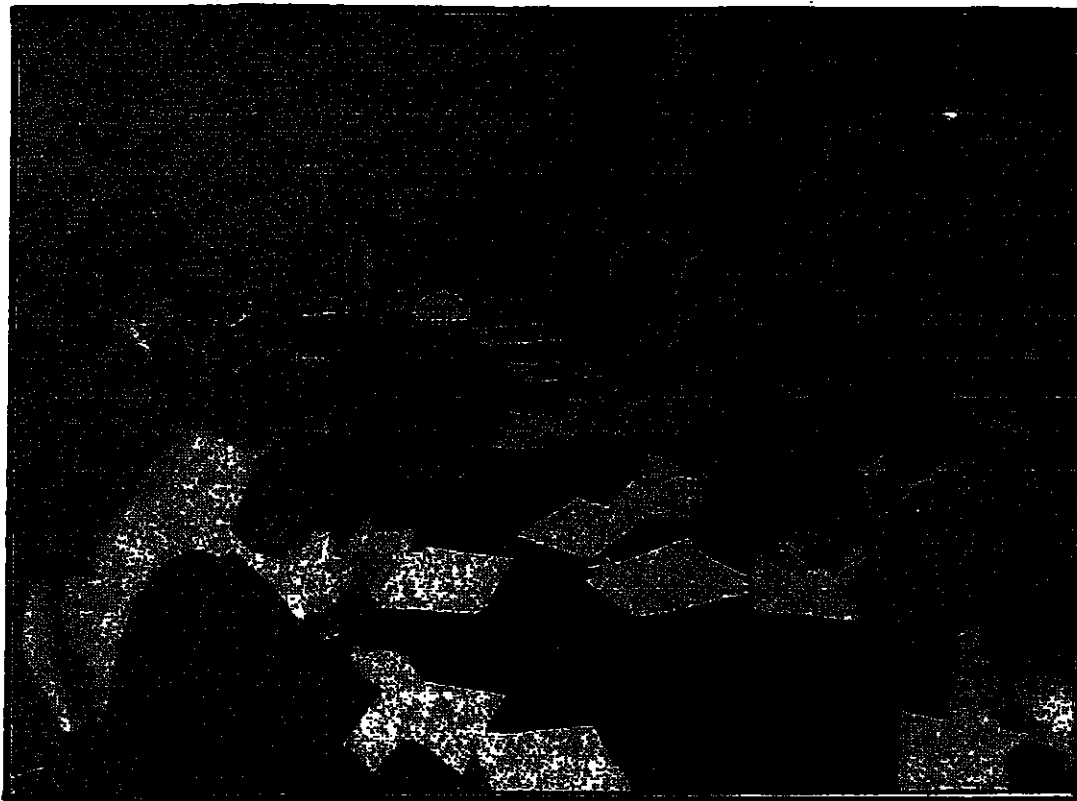
The hospital has recently been equipped with a special laboratory with up-to-date equipment and apparatus for handling up to 22 premature-born babies, the minister said.

He also announced that an Arab catering company is now under a two-year JD 2.059 million contract for supplying the hospital with food and for conducting cleaning and maintenance services.

As to the national health scheme, Dr. Malhas said that its regulations have been amended several times with the purpose of allowing more sections of the public the opportunity to benefit from medical treatment.

Those benefiting from the health scheme have to pay an average two per cent of their salaries to cover the medical services, he said. According to the minister, a special draft law on the establishment of a national health corporation has been drawn up making it compulsory for all people to be covered under the scheme.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Zarqa Health Department said Saturday that no diphtheria cases had been reported in Zarqa Governorate and health teams are standing by to handle all emergency cases.



Health Minister Zuhair Malhas holds a press conference Saturday to announce measures taken against the spread of diphtheria in the country (Petra photo)

Sharif calls for Christian-Muslim dialogue

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif has called for a dialogue between world Christian and Muslim leaders with a view to further deepening understanding between the two faiths.

Speaking Saturday at a meeting with a visiting delegation representing various religious denominations in the United States, Mr. Sharif said

that Islam does not condone violence or fanaticism but supports dialogue advocates dialogue to promote understanding.

During the meeting, Mr. Sharif spoke about the Awqaf ministry's activities and programmes and also about the conditions of holy places and Arab inhabitants under Israeli occupation.

AWSA plans to boost water supply

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA) will soon start building 17 water towers in Amman and its suburbs as part of a programme to supply all districts with sufficient drinking water, according to Al Ra'i newspaper Sunday.

Sufficient funds have been allocated for the project and necessary plans are drawn up, Al Ra'i quoted an AWSA spokesman as saying.

UNRWA, ministry sign agreement to build new school in Sweileh

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) will construct a school at Sweileh, west of Amman, under an agreement signed with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

A report in Al Ra'i newspaper said Sunday that the \$750,000 school will offer education to refugees inhabiting the city. The ministry is offering the land for building the school under a 25-year lease. At the end of this period the preparatory school will be turned over to Sweileh Municipality.

Ministry approves Jordan-S.Korea society

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Interior has approved the establishment of a Jordanian-South Korean friendship society, according to Al Ra'i newspaper Sunday.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Digs resume at Umm Al Jimal

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Department of Antiquities teams have started their third season of restoration of archaeological sites at Umm Al Jimal near Mafraq. Two previous seasons saw the restoration of all Nabatean and Byzantine sites including a castle of one of the Byzantine rulers and an ancient wall, the department said.

Committee to help 3 major companies

AMMAN (Petra) — The government Saturday ordered the formation of a committee to coordinate programmes among the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC), the Arab Potash Company (APC) and the Jordan Fertiliser Industry (JFIC). The committee, to be headed by Royal Scientific Society Deputy Director Fakhraddin Daghestani will be charged with helping the three companies to launch joint industrial projects and will help them in marketing their products and training and recruiting technical personnel.

JVA to supply artesian water to Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) has decided to exploit artesian wells at Wadi Al Arab region to supply the city of Irbid with drinking water. Altogether, four wells are to be exploited and nearly 20 million cubic metres of water are to be pumped annually to Irbid, a JVA spokesman said Saturday. The project, the spokesman said, also entails the construction of a water tank that would store up to 110,000 cubic metres of water in the city and the laying of pipes and other necessary works pertaining to the project. Work on the project is expected to start this month, the spokesman added.

University offers higher courses in Arabic

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan has opened the door for post-graduates to obtain doctorate degrees in Arabic language and literature, according to a spokesman for the university's council of deans. The spokesman said that the language courses are expected to start in the second half of the current academic year. Only six candidates will be allowed to take courses this year and the university hopes to increase the number of seats in the coming year, the spokesman said.

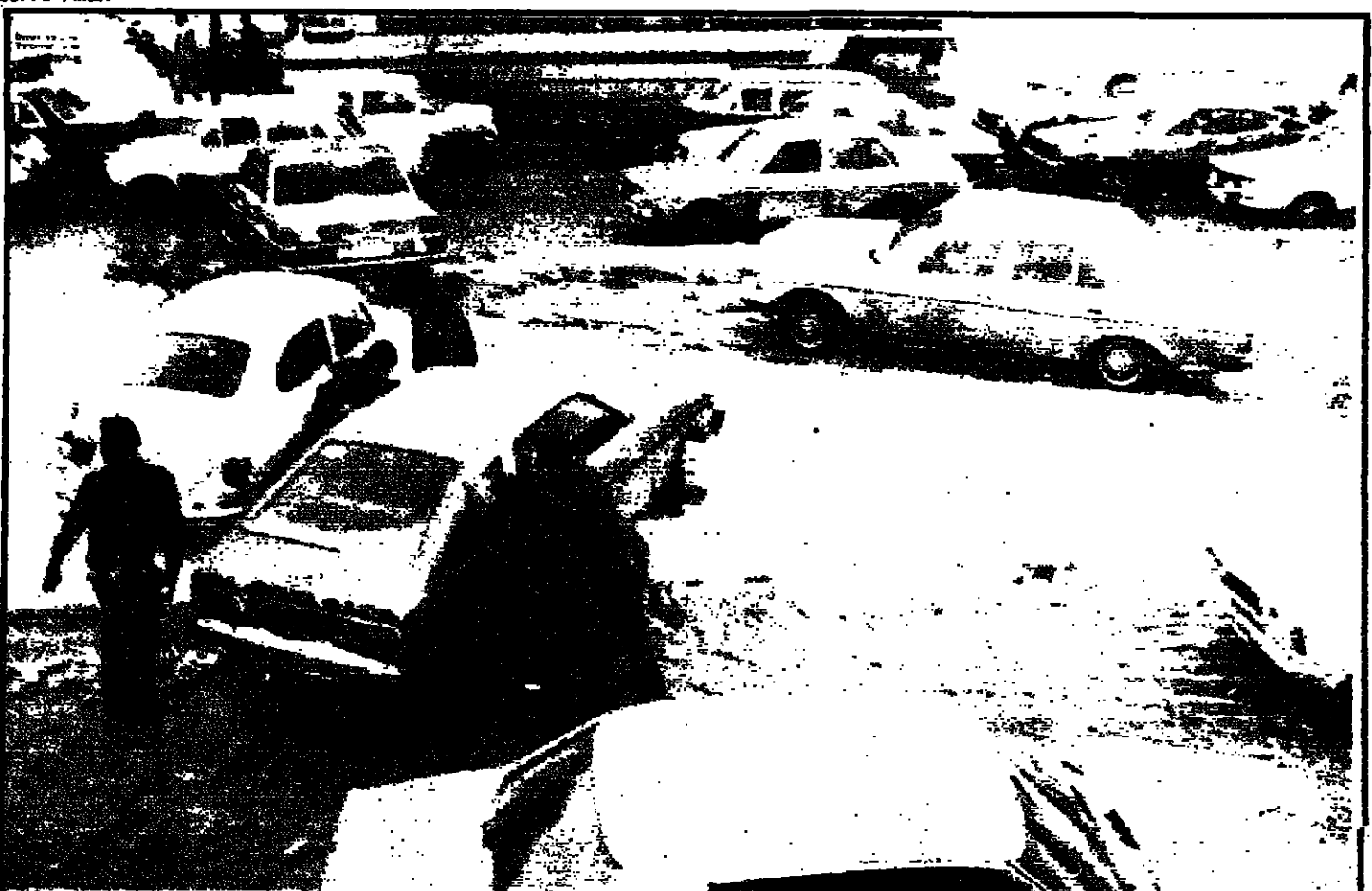
40,000 saplings planted west of Zarqa

ZARQA (Petra) — The Agricultural Department here says 40,000 forest saplings have been planted in and around Al Birein west of Zarqa. The department is now preparing saplings of fruit-bearing trees to be distributed to farmers cultivating rain-fed regions, a spokesman for the department said. Altogether, 15,000 saplings of olive and vine trees will be distributed in the first stage.

New Year blizzard wreaks havoc in Amman streets



Photos by Yusef Al 'Allan



فكر في الامم المتحدة

By Ronald Farquhar

Warsaw Pact summit to follow up Andropov's line

VIENNA (JP) — Warsaw Pact leaders gathering in Prague for a summit session this week are expected to respond positively to offers of nuclear missile cuts in Europe by new Soviet leader Yuri Andropov.

Party, government and military heads of the seven-nation Communist alliance are likely to issue the call when formally endorsing a recent proposal by Mr. Andropov to reduce Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe to the same level as those of Britain and France combined, Western analysts said.

The two-day session of the pact's policy-making body, the

political consultative committee, is being held in strict privacy with minimum exposure to Western news media.

Mr. Andropov is heading the Soviet delegation. He and the leaders of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Romania will be accompanied by their prime ministers, defence ministers and foreign ministers.

Even the precise dates had not been officially announced by Sunday. Diplomatic sources in Prague said foreign ministers were expected to meet Monday and the summit would take place on Tues-

day and Wednesday.

Andropov's proposed missile cuts on agenda.

Czechoslovak officials said there would be no facilities for newsmen at the summit. Journalists without permanent accreditations in Prague have been refused visas to come to Czechoslovakia to supplement the small resident foreign press corps.

Mr. Andropov's trip to Prague is his first journey abroad since succeeding to the Kremlin's top job, and the meeting is the Eastern bloc's first formal summit since May 1980. It was originally

scheduled for last month, but was postponed because of President Leonid Brezhnev's death in November.

Although it has received scant advance publicity in East Europe, there have been indications that the session is likely to echo the themes of a Kremlin speech by Mr. Andropov two weeks ago, particularly his proposals for missile cuts.

Mr. Andropov stressed Moscow's interest in arms control, but said the Soviet Union would never allow its security or that of its allies to be jeopardised.

Prime Minister Lubomir

Strougal of Czechoslovak, the host country, said in a recent speech that the Prague meeting would undoubtedly further enhance the alliance's "strategic peace line."

The Czechoslovak Communist Party's official newspaper Rude Pravo followed this up by saying that Mr. Andropov's initiative on missiles would be discussed and that the summit was expected to produce proposals for improving the international situation.

Editorials in the Hungarian party newspaper Nepszabadsag have praised Mr. Andropov's offer as evidence that the Kremlin

is ready to reach agreement on the European missile issue on the basis of mutual concessions.

The Budapest daily said initial negative NATO reactions should not be regarded as definitive and it called on the West to discuss the Soviet move seriously.

Mr. Andropov offered to reduce the Kremlin's Europe-based medium-range nuclear missiles to the combined level of British and French weapons, meaning a cut from around 600 missiles to about 160.

Initial Western reaction ranged from scepticism to outright rejection by the United States, Britain

and France. But the United States, which has been holding out for a ban on all U.S. and Soviet medium-range systems, subsequently disclosed it had asked for clarification of certain points in Mr. Andropov's speech.

Some Western politicians said they saw hints of flexibility in the Kremlin initiative, meriting study in U.S.-Soviet negotiations in Geneva on European-based missiles.

Mr. Andropov made clear that his offer was conditional on NATO scrapping plans to deploy 572 Cruise and Pershing II medium-range missiles in West

Europe.

The Western alliance is committed to take this action by late 1983 to counter Soviet deployment of modern SS-20 missiles if the Geneva talks fail.


The Prague meeting is also expected to formally adopt Soviet pledge announced last June not to be the first country to use nuclear weapons.

It may also announce alliance backing for Soviet proposals for stage-by-stage reduction of long range missile systems in a separate set of negotiations with U.S. officials in Geneva.

It follows the pattern of previous Warsaw Pact summits, the session will open with a brief address by Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak as host.

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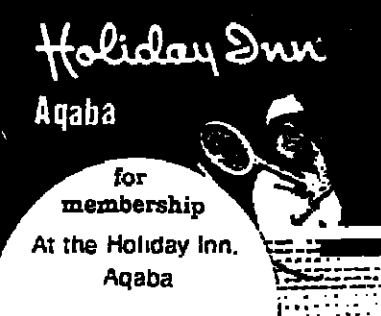
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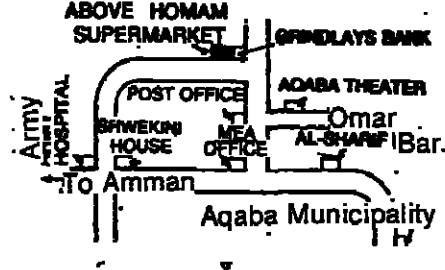
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1983 is important

If the storm on January 1 is anything to go by, 1983 looks set to be a decisive year for the Arab world. In the balance, there is the proposal for confederation or a federation with the West Bank and Gaza which could reshape fundamentally the geopolitical and social status of the Kingdom.

This year may not be the one in which the new tie with a Palestinian state or a homeland can be forged and formalised. It is expected, however, that events in 1983 will determine, to a large extent, much of the area's future.

For now, the Jordanian government and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership are agreed on the principle of, and the need to, tie the two peoples' future together. In a series of top-level talks and discussions in Amman towards the end of last year, Jordan and the PLO also decided to pursue unity through joint political moves aimed at an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, within the context of existing Arab, American and other plans for peace in the Middle East.

In all probability, and out of mutual beliefs and common interests, the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue will continue throughout 1983 and may well be intensified to reach a point from which there is no return. This will be of absolute necessity for three important reasons:

First, the present Israeli government's equal enmity towards Jordanians and Palestinians, the Jordanian government and the PLO

leadership. Second, the Reagan administration's avowed commitment to its peace plan based on a homeland for the Palestinians in association with Jordan. Third, and most important, the common desire by Jordan and the PLO to recover the occupied territories as soon as possible for a price they would like to pay if it is unity with identity.

Whether the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, even the developing of one negotiating position, can lead to a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a question that is difficult to answer at this stage. His Majesty King Hussein's talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Washington in late December seem to have produced brighter prospects for 1983 to be a year of peace. But, as is well known, the obstacle to greater progress has all along been Israel's outright rejection of compromise on the West Bank and Gaza. And unless the Begin government falls within months, or else made to considerably soften its extremist attitudes and drop its expansionist plans for the Arab territories, there will hardly be reason for optimism.

As far as Jordan and the PLO are concerned, the ball now is in the U.S. court. Washington can either opt to use its influence with the Israelis and get them to understand the reality of the situation and the fragility of their military power or else see an historic opportunity of extreme Arab flexibility slip away and go with the wind.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Tripoli factions should wake up to realities

The fierce fighting which the north Lebanese city of Tripoli witnessed Saturday regrettably shows that those killing one another have learnt nothing from past's lessons, and have no sense of responsibility towards the difficulties Lebanon is facing, and the Israeli pressures on the country aimed at leading it along a separatist line from the Arab Nation.

Lebanon is badly in need of the cooperation of all its citizens, and the support of the Arabs to retain its position as a member of the Arab family. Hence, the calamity befalling Tripoli through inter-communal hostilities poses great danger to all Lebanon, and those who carry on such fightings are condemned by the Arab Nation, and urged to put an end to the meaningless bloodshed.

Al Dustour: Learn from the realities of 1982

The 1982 stream of events has evidently shown the Arab World in the worst light possible. Last year was one of national calamities, despair, though in some instances good signs and promising prospects for the near future.

In 1982, the first Arab capital fell into Israeli captivity, following a barbaric fully-equipped Zionist invasion paving the way for ruthless massacres that only remind us of those committed by the Nazis.

But this negative aspect of Arab inability has an opposite phase: the Israel thrust into Beirut was only possible after the withdrawal of Palestinian fighters, who could thwart the Israeli drive at the gates of Beirut, and demonstrate to the whole world that the Zionist monster only operates at ease when things are made proper for it to face children and defenceless civilians.

During 1982 the occupied Arab territories witnessed a concentrated settlement campaign, over-

shadowed by a terrorist and repressive drive engineered and carried out by the occupation authorities to guarantee sufficient room and ease for the settlers.

The convening of the Fez Arab summit came to check an epoch of uncertainty in which a state of war or peace was undecided.

Arabs, for the first time in their history, unanimously presented a subtle peace plan, based on international legitimacy. Such a peace plan ended long years of a no-war-no-peace character, during which Israel tried to create new facts, which it wanted to incorporate into the following years, all through the eighties.

What is to be expected for 1983? Wishful thinking should in no way replace actual work in dealing with the consequences of the gloomy past years, so an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon should mean no political gains for the aggressor.

DE FACTONOMICS

Hopes for 1983

By T.A. Jaber

We welcome 1983 with optimism. We also have great expectation for the new year, since nothing can be worse than 1982. It was the case for our region if not for the whole world.

I am inclined to judge economic and political developments in our region by whatever turn the Middle East conflict may take. In 1982, Israeli intransigence reached its climax by the invasion of Lebanon, the destruction of the Palestinian community there, the dispersal of the PLO infrastructure, the intensification of Israeli colonies in the occupied areas, the demolishing of Arab educational and other institutions in the West Bank and Gaza, and the behaviour as the regional power in West Asia. To all of these hostile manifestations, the Likud government added its inhuman touch by murdering the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

Out of this dark situation, the opportunity for peace arose with Reagan's initiative and the Arab Fez plan for peaceful settlement.

With preparations and contacts amongst the major parties concerned now coming to a conclusion concrete steps must be taken in the coming months. Our hopes for peace in the Middle East are going to be tested in 1983. We are ready to utilise every chance to regain our occupied areas. This position should, however, ultimately be based on American effectiveness and Israel's reciprocal demonstration of its desire to reach a just peace.

The Lebanese-Israeli talks will serve as an excellent test of both the American effectiveness and the Israeli attitude. I hope that Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory will take place promptly and without ties that would make the Lebanese position one of surrender rather than a result of independent decision-making.

The Israelis, however, will probably try to waste time and

exert pressure for a final peaceful settlement which may split the Arab World further. The Lebanese should therefore be firm and step up their resistance to make occupation costly.

The Americans should not just be happy for having got the two parties together. They should not just sit and wait for the ending. Their effectiveness in bringing a quick and acceptable Israeli move will directly influence the Arab perspective of the American capability to act on Reagan's initiative.

A freeze on Israeli colonisation is not only a matter of prestige for the Americans, but also an indication of an Israeli peaceful approach. Jordan's security concerns and need for financial aid are other two factors that should be met satisfactorily.

If no concrete move is taken from now till June towards an acceptable peaceful settlement, things will turn in a different direction. I am afraid that the teen-agers of Sabra

and Shatila will start looking for revenge even against the will of their leaders. The Palestinian problem will not be one for the police, but may threaten the stability of the whole region. This trend will strengthen fundamentalism and will make it difficult for the only country which reached peace with Israel, namely, Egypt, to remain silent. In other words, the American policy in the Middle East will be deadlocked.

In the meantime, we all hope that our economic and social development will continue its momentum in 1983. We should be pragmatic in recognising new difficulties that may emerge and respond quietly and effectively. Some economic problems will come to the surface such as excess capacity in our industries and hotels, marketing limitations, negative repercussions of the entirely liberal import policy, labour relations and employment, the management of new large industries, and the cre-

ditability of our regional planning and development.

I hope that the Iraq-Iran war will come to an end with Arab rights preserved. Arms purchases can be substituted with equipments and machinery necessary for development projects. Pressures on the region's infrastructure can be eased and more improvements may be introduced.

I also hope that the gap between Syrian words and deeds will narrow rather than widen. Its constructive role can help the region considerably in facing its problems.

I have hopes regarding many areas, and have only mentioned a few. Finally, I look forward to a year of better growth and less unemployment in the world economy. I also hope that the foreign debt problem of the Third World countries will not slip into a worldwide banking crisis and bankruptcies. I, together with others look at 1983 with optimism and we hope that our wishes will come true.

Reforms aim at democracy in Bangladesh

By Bernard Melunsky
Reuters

DACCA—Bangladesh's military ruler, Hossain Mohammad Ershad, has launched major reforms designed to pull his impoverished country out of the vicious circle of faltering democracy and army coups. Lieutenant-General Ershad, who seized power in a bloodless coup last March, says the reforms setting up elected councils in rural areas are revolutionary and will lead to restoration of democracy. But frustrated major political parties whose activities are banned are clamouring for an immediate end to the martial law he imposed and an early return to parliamentary democracy.

General Ershad, 52, a soldier by training and poet by inclination, wrote in a verse read recently to officials being trained to help run the rural-based councils: "I invite you to fulfil the dream of the oppressed nation." Politicians would probably argue that a similar invitation should be sent to their parties, but General Ershad seems in no hurry to bring political parties into his concept of "a real people's democracy."

He told Reuters that after a series of elections on a non-party basis at local and district level beginning next year, he foresaw national elections with political parties taking part some time in 1984. His administrative changes involve giving some 470 thanas—police station areas each consisting of about 140 villages—a chance to elect councils with wide powers to handle local matters ranging from law and order and education to development projects.

Each council will be assisted by senior civil servants who will advise on projects but have no voting powers in the council. Local Government Minister Mahbubur Rahman, the only civilian in General Ershad's administration, told Reuters that the thanas and areas below that level had been neglected during the past decade. Too much power was centralised and the people were kept away from

their representatives and the government. "Democracy should be allowed to grow from the grass roots," he said.

Power base

Some political opponents of the martial law government say the scheme will cost too much and is partly aimed at building up a rural power base for General Ershad. "Military rulers always come up with fancy and expensive schemes to beguile people into accepting their style of democracy," one opponent said.

General Ershad said he had not yet made up his mind whether to enter politics before the projected national election, saying: "I am a simple soldier." But he made clear that he believed the armed forces had to have some role in future governments. Government sources said the exact political and military role of the armed forces might come in the form of amendments to the suspended constitution although nothing precise had yet been decided.

They said an institutional framework involving the military could effectively check the danger of army coups, which have haunted the sad and brutal history of Bangladesh since it won independence from Pakistan by war in 1971. The military first seized power after Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the first president, was assassinated and his Awami League government toppled in a coup in 1975.

After a series of coups and counter-coups, General Ziaur Rahman emerged as military

leader and president. He formed his own political party and held elections without giving the military a constitutional role but was assassinated in an abortive army mutiny in May 1981.

General Ershad, the army chief of staff, took power 10 months later, ousting an elected civilian government of General Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party. He alleged there had been widespread corruption and that democracy had failed to solve the country's problems. In a national broadcast this month, General Ershad said the armed forces had taken power reluctantly to save the country from ruin. His government had inherited a shattered economy, social and political instability, a bad law and order situation and above all rampant corruption.

The government had declared jihad (holy war) against corruption, he said. Some former ministers had been convicted and several officials removed from service. Listing administrative, judicial, educational and other reforms, General Ershad said: "We can claim that what we could achieve in eight months could not be done in the past decade."

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مكتبة العامة

Investments urged to fight unemployment

BONN (R) — Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff said Saturday there could be 2.5 million unemployed in West Germany by next month and appealed to industrialists, workers and banks to help fight the problem.

In an interview with the newspaper Bild Am Sonntag released in advance of publication Sunday, Count Lambsdorff said, "I must reckon with the prospect of a figure approaching 2.5 million unemployed in February."

West German unemployment recently soared over the psychologically important two million mark, over eight per cent of the labour force.

But Count Lambsdorff said economists regarded the unemployment rate as a delayed indicator of the economic situation.

"Thus the economy may well have embarked on an upswing without this being visible on the labour market over the first two or three months," he said.

Politicians and industrialists have voiced optimism on prospects for a national economic

revival in 1983, based on an anticipated easing of pressure from interest rates, import costs and wages, and on hopes that the world economy will improve.

Count Lambsdorff said the government had improved conditions for new investment. "Now it's the turn of the companies — they must invest."

He called on employers and employees to ensure wage negotiations did not endanger the competitiveness of West German industry in world markets, adding that banks should be quick to pass on interest rate reductions.

"Finally the consumer should not brake an upswing by abstaining from buying in an exaggerated way — whoever says he always wanted to buy his wife a winter coat, should do so now," he said.

Asked how he saw prices developing this year, the minister said: "The development is positive. We are counting on an inflation rate of four per cent in 1983 — even better than last year." Consumer prices rose by 4.6 per cent

in 1982.

But Count Lambsdorff predicted gloom for the country's steel industry, which has been hit by shrinking demand, mass redundancies and worldwide surplus capacities. It would suffer "the same great problems as before," he said.

In Paris, increasing world unemployment risks the rise of dictatorships and war, the director-general of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said in an interview published Saturday.

Frenchman Francis Blanchard told the daily newspaper Le Monde that he agreed with the gloomy predictions for unemployment in industrialised nations made recently by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Referring to the depression of the 1920's and 1930's he said, "it brought the rise of dictatorships and the World War II. Increasing unemployment means running the risk of these two catastrophes. That is why we should give priority to fighting this plague."

Mr. Blanchard added that the labour situation in the Third World was just as bad.

"We must not forget that in the Third World there are 500 million people vegetating in misery, without work or fixed income," he said.

Mr. Blanchard said fast-rising populations in poor countries aggravated the jobless problem.

The situation was helped by international organisations and the realisation that different parts of the world were dependent on each other.

But he said there was little chance of agreement on policy between the East, the West and the Third World.

"The solution to the crisis comes through development," Mr. Blanchard said.

"The time approaches when rich and poor will have to realise that their salvation lies in a common will to encourage growth and share out wealth more fairly... which would allow industrialised nations to escape from their stagnation."

Wall Street forecasters see higher stock prices in 1983

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street forecasters see higher stock prices in 1983, basing their view on expectations that the nation's long-awaited economic recovery will finally begin this spring.

A major uncertainty hanging over the stock market is how President Reagan and the new, more heavily-Democratic Congress will work together, but this has not dimmed market analysts' general optimism.

The analysts, in interviews with Reuters, said the Dow Jones industrial average of 30 leading industrial shares should spend most of 1983 well above the 1000 level — a level not far short of the record high reached by the Dow this year after one of the strongest sustained rallies in Wall Street history.

Spurred by forecasts of lower interest rates, the stock market exploded in mid-August and never looked back. The Dow climbed by some 200 points in the next six weeks in frenzied trading that often exceeded 100 million shares in a single day.

As the buying stampede continued, the Dow broke a 10-year-old record closing high on Nov. 3, finishing at 1165.49.

It closed at a record high 1070.55 last Monday from its 1982 low of 776.92 on Aug. 12

before ending the year on a mixed note at 1046.54.

Analyst Newton Zinder of E.F. Hutton and Company believes the market has reached a new level in its historic cyclical pattern.

"For the balance of the decade we could be looking at the (Dow) 1000 level as a floor, rather than a ceiling as it was in the 1970s," he said.

After its extraordinary rise in recent months, analysts generally expect the stock market to pull back somewhat in the first quarter of 1983 for a period of consolidation.

"The first quarter will tend to be laggard," said Mr. Monte Gordon of Dreyfus Corporation. "The market will be exhausted from the emotional binge that marked the closing weeks of 1982."

Mr. Zinder expects a lengthy consolidation after a strong start in the new year.

"I expect the market to correct down to the (Dow) 980 to 990 range, which isn't that low. But if you reach 1100 at the beginning, which I expect, it will look like a big drop," he said.

Mr. Robert Stovall of Dean Witter Reynolds believes the market could fall as low as 920 during 1983, could rise as high as 1190, and should stand at around 1100 a year from now.

"The big risk will be in the first five months," said Mr. Stovall. He and other analysts say investors will be closely watching the actions of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and the new Congress.

"It could be a more difficult environment for both the administration and the Federal Reserve," said Mr. Gordon.

"If you get major spending bills piling out of Congress and Mr. Reagan is no longer seen as invincible, the market will be concerned. It may strive to go higher, but it won't be easy," he said.

However, Mr. Gordon still expects the market to move upwards and said there was a possibility the Dow could reach 1500, although 1200 was likely ceiling.

Mr. Chester Pado of G. Tsai and Company expects a strong year for the market but warned that "a turnaround in the economy must occur."

He added, "the market is a forecasting tool, and since August the market has been saying improvement is coming."

Most other major U.S. economic indicators have not pointed to a recovery with the certainty that the stock market has, but Mr. Pado considers stock prices a fairly dependable harbinger of the economy's direction.

"There have been times when the market has been wrong in both directions, but if one had to bet on any one indicator I would choose the market above any other," he said.

Mr. Zinder said that even sluggish economic recovery should not interrupt the market's upturn.

Turkey proposes Islamic market

ISLAMABAD (R) — Turkey has proposed to Pakistan and other Islamic countries that an Islamic common market should be set up. Pakistani Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan said here Saturday when he returned from a visit to Turkey.

Soviet leadership warns heads of ministries

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet leadership has warned heads of government ministries linked to agriculture that they will be held personally responsible for ensuring the spring grain crop is sown on time this year.

The message was spelled out at a recent meeting of the Communist Party's ruling politburo which was reported Saturday in the party newspaper Pravda.

Pravda said the politburo "drew the attention of chiefs of ministries and departments involved in the agro-industrial complex to their personal responsibility for successfully solving all questions to do with preparations for spring sowing."

The daily added that the politburo had decided on "necessary measures" to eliminate shortcomings in this area. It gave no details of what the measures would be.

Western agricultural experts say that among the reasons for

Japan launches trade offensive

TOKYO (R) — Japan goes on the diplomatic offensive this month to try to ward off protectionist threats from the United States and the European Community, two of its most important trade markets.

Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe arrives in Brussels Monday at the start of a European tour and Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone goes to Washington later in January.

Mr. Abe's discussions in Brussels, Bonn, London, Paris and Rome will dwell almost exclusively on trade.

The subject will be high on Mr. Nakasone's agenda when he goes to the United States on his first foreign trip since becoming prime minister in November.

But there is little sign that the friction which has nagged Japan's trade relations will ease in the coming year.

Faced with the twin spectres of recession and unemployment in the United States and Western Europe, the idea of protectionist retaliation reflects the view in Washington and Brussels that Tokyo maintains unfair barriers to foreign goods.

Its trade surplus with rest of the world totalled \$20.4 billion in the year ending last March 30 and the government forecasts a drop this year to \$19 billion.

Japan has huge surpluses with the United States, its single largest export market, and the European Community, which ranks third behind Southeast Asia as a market for Japanese goods.

Calculation methods vary but the United States says its deficit with Japan totalled \$16 billion in 1981 and will approach \$20 billion in the current year.

The European Community estimates its deficit will be only slightly lower than the \$14 billion recorded in 1981.

Officials said Mr. Abe would explain in detail Japan's latest package of trade measures aimed at opening up its market, the third in 12 months, and seek to assure them of its sincerity in trying to ease friction.

Canada to stress Asian ties

OTTAWA (R) — Canada, which does 70 per cent of its trade with the United States, is now turning its eyes eagerly towards Asia with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau leading the way as number one salesman.

The Canadian leader leaves this month for a 17-day tour of Japan and the five member states of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), all booming markets where Ottawa would dearly love to have a firmer foothold.

Japan is Canada's second largest individual customer but still has not gone beyond \$7.5 billion.

Trade with the five ASEAN states — Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines — has yet to reach \$1 billion.

ASEAN, founded in 1967, at its apogee no economic, technical and cultural links among its members.

consistently sluggish agricultural performance in the Soviet Union are poor planning and inadequate preparation of machinery which often mean the optimum time for sowing is missed.

However, Pravda said the leadership expressed confidence that farm workers would ensure spring crops would be sown on time to produce a high quality.

The paper said the politburo heard a report on preparations for spring sowing from Mr. Ziya Nuriyev, one of several deputy prime ministers who heads a government commission on agro-industrial questions. It gave no details of his report.

Since taking over the party leadership on Nov. 12, Mr. Yuri Andropov has set improvement in the dismal agriculture performance of the last few years as a priority.

The meeting of the 12 senior

members of the politburo and the eight non-voting members was the third such session to be reported since Mr. Andropov succeeded the late Leonid Brezhnev.

Publication of the proceedings of such meetings was a rarity under Mr. Brezhnev and the new style appears to be intended to assure the Soviet Union that its leadership is paying attention to urgent domestic problems.

The two other politburo meetings were said to have taken measures to combat crime and corruption, improve housing and provide better supplies to car spare parts.

The veiled warning to heads of ministries and departments was in line with signs that Mr. Andropov intends making economic managers accountable for performance and making sure industrial and agricultural goals are adhered to.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JAN. 3, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day and evening to make plans that are important to your advancement and progress. Be sure to make definite plans to have more security in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact persons who can give you the backing you need before handling an important financial matter. Don't waste time.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An outside venture can bring a great amount of success at this time. Show courtesy to family members.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Find a better way of improving routines so that they become more profitable. Take needed health treatments.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Find out what is needed to put across an idea that could bring you greater income in the future.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Begin the week properly by finding better ways to add to present success. Sidestep one who wants to waste your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can now begin a course of action that will help you gain your goals more quickly. Show more generosity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Use a positive method to gain your personal aims. Wait until the evening for repaying social debts. Express happiness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Bring your talents to the attention of higher-ups but follow all rules and regulations that apply to you. Be wise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Being with new friends in the evening is fine since they can be helpful to you in present activities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Find a more efficient way to handle your obligations and get good results. Delve into more outside activities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) State your aims to associates and they will support them willingly. Be sure to keep promises you've made.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Put new ideas to work that will help improve your environment, but don't get rid of anything that is valuable.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will know how to handle problems of the broadest scope and should have a fine education so that life can be successful. Be sure to give praise for any exceptional work done. Ethical training is important.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothea E. Shipp

ACROSS

1 Rebekah's son
5 Discharges
10 Vaccine
14 Conceited
15 Philo or
16 Nestase
17 Exceedingly
20 Negative
21 Domini
22 Printing
23 Chest of
24 Leg joint
25 Disciplined

28 Fall behind
29 Ogden the poet
33 de Leon
34 Ancient Egyptian
35 School org.
36 Readily
41 Ms. Barrett
42 Certain branch
43 Makes a mistake
45 Frosted
46 Marked, as exams
47 Spunkier's joy
49 Gives out money

50 Fuel hydrocarbon
53 Large sport fish
54 poetica
57 Very small amount
60 An Evans model
61 Muslim
62 Apologist's concern
63 Nancy or Ed
64 Possessed
65 Again

19 "Day at a Time"
23 Part
24 Fraternity letter
25 Speedily
26 November
27 Inscribe
28 Nuts
30 Plant infester
31 Barrel part
32 Loathed
34 Italian philosopher
37 Impelled toward
38 Donor's remark
39 Woe is me!
44 Land and sea
46 Clad
48 Cuckoo
49 English dramatist of yore
50 Old Norse collection of poems
51 Trolley
52 Pit
53 Gab
54 Related
55 Dream: Fr.
56 Meat dish
58 Haul
59 Half a dance
18 Zoroastrian

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. REBEKAH'S SON (2), 5. DISCHARGES (4), 10. VACCINE (6), 14. CONCEITED (8), 15. PHILO (5), 16. NESTASE (7), 17. EXCEEDINGLY (9), 20. NEGATIVE (8), 21. DOMINI (6), 22. PRINTING (7), 23. CHEST OF (5), 24. LEG JOINT (6), 25. DISCIPLINED (8), 28. FALL BEHIND (7), 29. OGDEN THE POET (8), 33. DE LEON (6), 34. ANCIENT EGYPTIAN (9), 35. SCHOOL ORG. (7), 36. READILY (7), 41. MS. BARRETT (8), 42. CERTAIN BRANCH (8), 43. MAKES A MISTAKE (8), 45. FROSTED (7), 46. MARKED, AS EXAMS (8), 47. SPUNKIER'S JOY (8), 49. GIVES OUT MONEY (8), 50. FUEL HYDROCARBON (8), 53. LARGE SPORT FISH (7), 54. POETICA (7), 57. VERY SMALL AMOUNT (8), 60. AN EVANS MODEL (8), 61. MUSLIM (6), 62. APOLOGIST'S CONCERN (8), 63. NANCY OR ED (8), 64. POSSESSED (7), 65. AGAIN (5), 19. "DAY AT A TIME" (8), 23. PART (4), 24. FRATERNITY LETTER (8), 25. SPEEDILY (7), 26. NOVEMBER (8), 27. INSCRIBE (7), 28. NUTS (4), 30. PLANT INFESTER (8), 31. BARREL PART (7), 32. LOATHED (7), 34. ITALIAN PHILOSOPHER (8), 37. IMPELLED TOWARD (8), 38. DONOR'S REMARK (8), 39. WOE IS ME! (7), 44. LAND AND SEA (8), 46. CLAD (4), 48. CUCKOO (6), 49. ENGLISH DRAMATIST OF YORE (8), 50. OLD NORSE COLLECTION OF POEMS (8), 51. TROLLEY (6), 52. PIT (4), 53. GAB (4), 54. RELATED (6), 55. DREAM: FR. (7), 56. MEAT DISH (7), 58. HAUL (4), 59. HALF A DANCE (7), 18. ZOROASTRIAN (8).

DOWN: 1. NOVELIST (6), 2. ACTRESS (6), 3. BREEZY (6), 4. NUMERO (6), 5. SHOW (4), 6. DIVINE FOOD (7), 7. EACH LIFE (6), 8. RELATIVE OF TUT (7), 9. LOOKING AFTER (7), 10. DISGUST (6), 11. AWEATHER'S OPPOSITE (7), 12. ANANIAS, FOR ONE (7), 13. BERRY AND NAMESAKES (8), 18. ZOROASTRIAN (8).

THE BETTER HALF By Harris

"Someday you'll look back at this and laugh."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LITEE
IMMAX
MERCOH
PELSOG

MAY LEAD ONE TO THE ALTAR.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GAWKY IRONY TUSSE DAINY
Answer: The sailor turned minister was skilled at this — TYING KNOTS

Peanuts

THIS IS A GREAT BUSINESS WE HAVE GOING HERE, BIG BROTHER...

YOU MAKE THE WREATHS, AND YOUR DOG AND I GO OUT AND SELL 'EM!

WE'LL SELL CHRISTMAS WREATHS TO EVERY HOME IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

UNLESS MY NOSE FALLS OFF!

Mutt 'n' Jeff

YOUR WEIGHT 1

BALLOONS \$1 EACH

Andy Capp

HEY, CYRIL! I HEAR YOU'RE GETTIN' MARRIED NEXT WEEK — C'MON AN I'LL BUY YOU ONE!

I DON'T DRINK, MISTER CAPP

YOU WILL, SON, YOU WILL

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POLLUTION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Co-operation needed to protect endangered coast

In the second of two articles on pollution in the Gulf of Aqaba, (see Jordan Times, Dec. 1, 1982) environment correspondent Mustafa M. Salma looks at three more coastal industrial developments and suggests how government and industry can work together to minimise the environmental dangers.

The Jordan Timber Processing Co. (JTPC) plant, now under construction, is located in the north-western part of Wadi 2, just north of the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Co. complex. The plant is designed to process around 120,000 tonnes a year of imported wood and consists of the following units: sawmill, chip-board plant, plywood plant, and furniture factory. A waterline pond (150 m x 85 m) for storing the incoming lumber will be excavated just beneath the shore waterline.

In principle, no liquid waste will be discharged into the Gulf waters. However, air pollutants in the form of dust are to be expected from woodworking and sulphur oxides and smoke from the combustion of heavy fuel oil. There will also be organic compounds such as urea formaldehyde adhesive, used for making plywood, phenol formaldehyde resin for making chipboard, and paint and varnishes for making furniture.

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) new thermal power plant will also be located in Wadi 2 and will be constructed in two stages. The first stage is expected to be completed in 1986, and consists of two units of 130 MW each. Around 1990, two units of 320 MW each will be added as the second stage. Sea water for cooling will be used at a rate of 36,000 m³ during the first stage. The temperature rise will not exceed 11°C between sea water intake temperature and outfall.

But this will undoubtedly lead to a severe thermal pollution problem even if all measures are taken to achieve a thorough mixing of the returning hot water with the surrounding sea water. Accord-

ingly, it has to be assumed that irreversible damage to the marine environment may take place and the corals in the vicinity of the outfall will be destroyed.

Air pollution will be in the form of sulphur dioxide and smoke resulting from fuel oil combustion which has a sulphur content of between three and four per cent.

The Jordan Phosphate Mine Co. (JPMC) loading bay, JPMC's throughput of exported beneficiated phosphate rock is estimated around 3.5 million tonnes/year. This is transported to Aqaba port by train and truck. The greatest source of visible emission is obviously taking place during the loading of ships when fine phosphate rock drops a few metres from the chute into the bunkers of a ship.

Phosphate rock dust will increase the turbidity of the water in the vicinity of loading. Furthermore, phosphate rock contains nutrients, toxic metals, and four per cent fluorine which will also have an adverse effect on the marine life there. However, U.K. consultants Rendel, Palmer and Triton have prepared a tender to alleviate the present situation and reduce dust emission from its various sources.

Environmental impact

An environmental impact report should form part of the planning procedure for all proposed new plants or plant modification in Jordan. The purpose of evaluating environmental impact is threefold. First, it forces the industrial firm to consider all the probable environmental impacts of its proposed building and production activities, and the various alternatives which can minimise

potential damage to the environment. Second, it gives ample warning of deleterious side-effects of the project, which might cause economic or social costs not identified in the project review procedure.

Third, it also provides a document which the regulatory agencies can study and then make an informed decision to approve the original plans, request certain modifications, or refuse permission to build the proposed new plant on the proposed site.

The environmental impact report should set out a series of analytical steps applicable to environmental problems that may occur, beginning with raw materials and ending in the final disposal of materials produced.

Some of these steps are: baseline analysis of air, land and water carrying capacity to determine original conditions and effects of the project; safety and welfare of the workforce affected by the plant; monitoring of outputs, including by-products and wastes for treatment and re-use; monitoring discharge; disposal of wastes; social implications of project; proposed plant expansions; unusual environmental impacts (accidental or catastrophic); and

Most companies do not want to damage the environment, but industry's primary function is to provide a product and sell it at a profit, and there are few cost-free solutions to environmental pollution.

unavoidable adverse impacts on land, water, plants and animals etc.

Complementary efforts

Effective control of industry's pollutants can only be achieved through the complementary efforts of government and industry. Neither can do it alone. Most

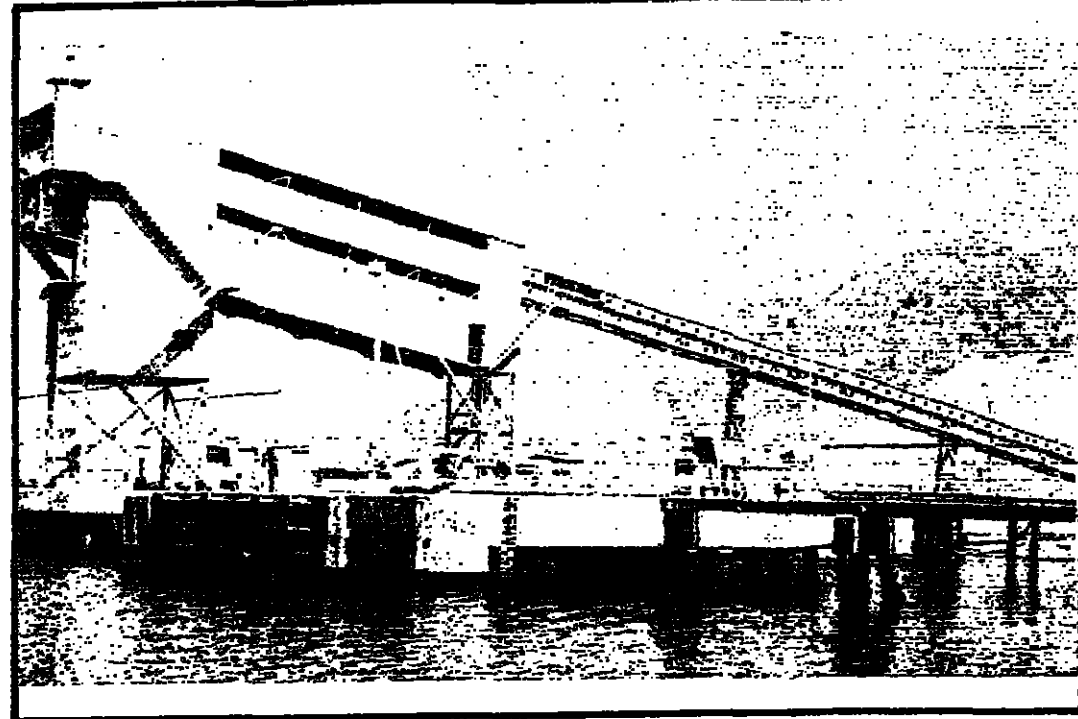
companies do not want to damage the environment, but industry's primary function is to provide a product and sell it at a profit, and there are few cost-free solutions to environmental pollution. Regulatory control strategies involve legislation, administration, and enforcement of discharge standards.

However, in enforcing the law, there are two related problems in regulating industrial pollution: (1) laws have little effect unless they are strictly enforced, and (2) penalties are meaningless unless they are sufficiently large to make compliance more attractive than paying the penalty. Taken together, these are a minor nuisance compared with the purchase, installation, and use of effective pollution control systems. Therefore, unless regulatory agencies are given authority or are prepared to enforce control laws vigorously and to impose suitable penalties, industry will have little motivation to comply with control standards.

There are various environmental regulations and legislations existing or pending in Jordan dealing with the protection of the environment. The government has also created many official bodies or institutions which are

responsible for the environment. However, these institutions have no translated official concern into effective environmental management programme. This can be attributed to several factors, mainly:

(1) Financial and manpower deficiencies and other pressures have hindered institutional



The phosphate loading bay has a throughput of 3.5 million tonnes a year.

improvements. (2) Increased pressure to develop economically will further increase the drive toward industrialisation at the expense of the environment.

(3) Inadequate professional and technical support. (4) Lack of experience. (5) Lack of university-level courses designed to train young graduates. (6) Lack of good qualified management. (7) Inadequate legislation.

Endangered ecosystem

The coral reefs and their marine ecosystem are the major form of life in the Gulf of Aqaba, and serve also to prevent erosion of the coast itself. Coral reefs are particularly sensitive to three forms of pollution: thermal changes, chemical pollution, and

sedimentation, all of which will be discharged to the Gulf water.

It has been said that those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. For present purposes, selecting the south coast of Aqaba for industrialisation was not a wise decision, and it seems the water pollution problems of the King Talal dam are about to be repeated on a much larger scale. Therefore, we have to understand three things: firstly, industry's capacity to pollute the Gulf has been and will be increasing rapidly. Secondly, industrial growth without effective control may lead to irreversible damage to marine life, and thirdly, large supplies of natural resources will eventually be used up.

The existing monitoring capabilities in Jordan are not sufficient to determine the extent and level extent and level of toxic substances and other pollutants

within the immediate environment of the Gulf waters. In the absence of monitoring and surveillance, the government should place the responsibility of monitoring industrial discharge and air pollutants on the owners of industrial plants located in the coastal zone of Aqaba. The owner should install, calibrate, maintain, and operate monitoring instruments to measure all forms of air and water pollutants emitted from his plant.

Furthermore, the owner should be ordered to maintain a file of all required measurements, to be summarised monthly. The records of such measurements and summaries should be retained for at least two years. All records shall be submitted to appropriate government officials on demand, and violators should be subjected to criminal indictments and penalties, if found guilty.

Egypt boasts new Pharaonic tomb

By Hamza Hendawi

VALLEY OF THE KINGS, EGYPT—This vast royal graveyard on the west bank of the Nile has a new attraction to offer tourists—the newly opened tomb of one of ancient Egypt's great rulers, Pharaoh Ramses III.

Half a million tourists a year visit the Valley, close to the ancient southern city of Luxor, but the effects of war in neighbouring Lebanon have cut Egypt's tourist revenues this year by 25 per cent.

The new tomb commemorates the Pharaoh who saved Egypt from sea raiders more than 3,000 years ago. "The name of Ramses III is certain to ring positive bells in the minds of potential tourists," said the manager of a Luxor hotel.

The 125-metre chamber cut into solid rock was first discovered by explorer James Bruce in 1769, but after a brief glimpse he moved on, leaving it closed for two cen-

turies. Sometimes known as "Bruce's tomb", historians say it was begun by Seth-Nekht, the father of Ramses III, in the 12th century B.C.

Work on the tunnel was abandoned after it was found to have run into the tomb of another king, but when Ramses ascended the throne he continued the work, changing the tomb's course and making it his own.

By custom, the Pharaohs of ancient Egypt started work on their tombs immediately after taking power.

The walls of the 10-chamber tomb of Ramses III are decorated with scenes from his life, telling of his greatness in saving Egypt from the Sea People, a conglomeration of migrating peoples from central Europe and the Mediterranean islands.

Weapons occupy a prominent position in the pictures, and

according to one Egyptologist "they reflect Ramses' great concern with increasing his country's military might to face the advanced metal arms of the Sea People."

The Sea People were driven from their homes by a severe drought and crossed the Mediterranean to the areas now known as Libya and Sinai.

Ramses led his forces in a major naval battle off the coast of Egypt which halted the advance of the Sea People and ended their threat to the country.

The tomb of Ramses III also has classic examples of Egyptian funerary art. A hymn praising the god Ra is inscribed on both sides of the corridor to the tomb, and there are scenes showing the Nile god offering gifts, and kneeling figures of Maat, the goddess of truth, sheltering those who enter the tomb with her wings.

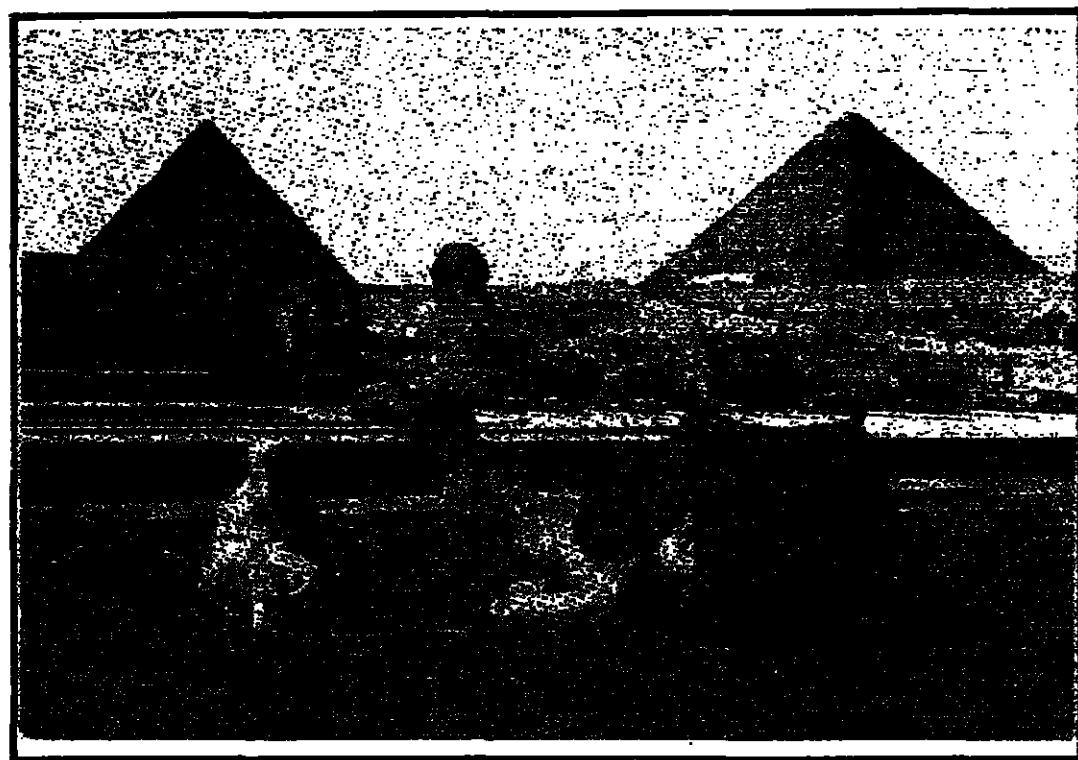
Like all other tombs in the Val-

ley, with the exception of that of Tutankhamun, the tomb of Ramses III has been looted of its precious contents by the grave robbers who plagued the area in ancient times.

"The world should be thankful to the huge rocks that fell on the gate of Tutankhamun's tomb, saving the treasures of the young Pharaoh from the hands of the plunderers for people to see many centuries later," an antiquities official commented.

Local officials are hopeful that the new tomb will lure more sight-seers to the area and go some small way towards reducing the damage done to the tourist industry by the war in Lebanon.

The manager of Luxor's Winter Palace hotel, Baher Sobhy Abdel-Malek, said that with the cost of package tours from Europe and the United States ranging from \$1,600 to 3,000, many tourists must have been put off by the fighting.



Egypt's world-famous tourist industry has been flagging since the war in Lebanon.

Pay or progress?

By Tareq Masarwah
Al Rai columnist

The sheer size of the 1983 national budget of nearly JD 800 million really arouses one's interest and amazement, and rekindles memories of the past years of JD 30 to JD 40-million budgets.

In the old days of modest budgets, Jordanians looked with hope to the implementation of such projects as Aqaba port, the East Ghor Canal, the Amman-Aqaba desert highway and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company. These were not only deemed essential projects for the country's development, but were also a source of satisfaction and pride to everyone, since they were given priority in the view of Jordan's needs, and launched with very limited resources.

At that time, employees in both the public and private sectors clung on hard to their jobs, well aware that job opportunities were limited. A government office, where I worked in those days had only one accountant. Several years later the number had grown to 14 though the volume of work has not increased proportionately.

I am not really tackling the draft budget itself, nor the government's administrative system, but offering a humble comment which occurred to me as I looked at the budget proposals. Indeed I couldn't help observing that in some departments, funds earmarked for employees' salaries have outgrown those allocated for the department's projects.

The Ministry of Culture and Youth, for instance, which does not offer direct services to the public, will spend more on salaries than on the actual cultural work assigned to it. The same applies to the Youth Welfare Organisation, where funds allocated for sports and youth activities fall far below those allocated to salaries. Such departments are not concerned with creating culture, arts and sports but their work is rather to organise and sponsor such activities with a view to expanding and spreading them throughout the country. This, of course, requires adequate funds.

My views should by no means be taken as a call to reduce employees' salaries, but rather one for increasing these departments' budgets. In my view, a project can succeed if no more than 15 per cent of its overall cost is spent on management. This can also be applied to other government departments where management has been continuously and unjustifiably inflated. Such inflation does not serve the real interests of the country, the civil service or government functioning in general.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

- 17:30 Koran
- 17:50 Cartoons
- 18:10 Children's Programme
- 18:30 Sport
- 18:55 Muppet Show
- 19:20 Programmes Preview
- 20:00 News in Arabic
- 20:30 Arabic Series
- 21:00 Local Programme
- 22:10 Arabic Varieties
- 22:30 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

- 18:00 French Programme
- 18:30 News in French
- 19:30 News in Hebrew
- 20:30 Comedy: The Other Art
- 21:00 One Hundred Great Paintings
- 21:10 Documentary
- 22:00 News in English
- 22:15 The Agatha Christie Hour

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.00 KHz, SW

- 07:10 Morning Show
- 07:30 News Summary
- 08:00 Morning Show
- 10:00 News Summary
- 12:00 Pop Section
- 13:00 News Summary
- 13:05 Pop Section
- 14:00 News Bulletin
- 14:10 Instrumentals
- 14:30 Picnic Time
- 15:00 Concert Hour
- 16:00 News Summary
- 16:05 Instrumentals, Old Favorites
- 17:00 First Spin
- 18:00 News Summary
- 18:35 Animal, Vegetable, Mineral
- 19:00 News Summary
- 19:30 Date with a Star
- 20:00 Evening Show
- 21:00 News Summary
- 22:00 News Summary
- 23:00 News Summary
- 24:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

Weekend 06:30 The Belton
48 Letter from London 06:55

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

* Video film of The Scarlet Letter (Part II, at the American Centre at 5:00 p.m.)

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costume over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Galleries: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munazzah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 662420.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Leona Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Leona Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Assumption (Roman Catholic). Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox). Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabal Amman, 43453.
Armenian Catholic Church. Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church. Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafieh, 71751.
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational). Site at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisat, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

06:10 Fajr
06:38 (Sunrise) Sharrif
11:38 Dhuhur
14:22 'Asr
16:40 Maghrib
18:07 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa Information Department at Amman Airport tel. 92205-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:45 Cairo (EA)
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:55 Aqaba (RJ)
09:00 Damascus (RJ)
09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
09:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:50 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (KAC)
10:50 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GP)
12:30 Moscow (SU)
14:35 Kuwait (KAC)
15:30 Tunis, Athens (TU)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:30 Bangkok (RJ)
16:30 Cairo (RJ)
17:15 New York, Amsterdam (I)
18:20 Athens (GP)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:20 Cairo (EA)
19:30 Agaba (RJ)
20:00 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
20:15 Tripoli (LN)
20:40 Beirut (MEA)
21:00 London (BA)
21:05 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
22:30 Athens (GP)
00:30 Baghdad (RJ)
00:45 Cairo (RJ)
01:45 Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:45 Damascus (RJ)
07:30 Beirut, Paris (AF)
07:50 Cairo (EA)
08:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Agaba (RJ)
12:30 Athens (GP)
12:50 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:50 Cairo (RJ)
14:20 Cairo (RJ)
15:20 Moscow (SU)

LOCAL SELLING RATES IN LIT

Belgian franc 75.3 / 75.8
Dutch guilder 135.5 / 134.3
Egyptian pound 525.7 / 332
French franc 52.1 / 52.4
Iraqi dinar 561.7 / 570
Italian lire (for 100) 35.6 / 35.8
Japanese yen (for 100) 149.6 / 150.5
Kuwaiti dinar 1203.6 / 1210.2
Lebanese lira 91.2 / 92.8
Omani rial 1013.3 / 1021.7
Saudi riyal 90 / 90.7
Swedish crown 48.1 / 48.4
Swiss franc 174.8 / 175.8
Syrian lira 61.7 / 62.4
UAE dirham 95.5 / 96
U.K. sterling pound 567.9 / 571.3
U.S. dollar 351 / 353
W. German mark 147.6 / 148.5

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy with chances of scattered showers. Sometimes the visibility will be poor. Winds will be westerly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate winds and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C
Amman 0 / 7
Aqaba 7 / 16
Deserts 0 / 9
Jordan Valley 8 / 14

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 3.4, Aqaba 14.6, Humidity readings: Amman 97 per cent, Aqaba 45 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 74121
Civil Defence rescue 66111
Fire headquarters 22906-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56360
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 81381-32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Ashik Maternity, J. Amman 42444
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malbus, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisat 66471-4
Shmeisat Hospital 669181-5
University Hospital 84565
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Mushter Hospital 66727-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 669166
Italian, Al-Muhajirah 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN
Dr. Adel Dabboush 93794
Dr. Mohammed Said Lubbadah 56560

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in lit per kg.
Apple (African) 220 / 180
Apple (American) 480 / 450
Apple (Double Red) 220 / 180
Apple (Golden) 220 / 180
Apple (Twinkl) 220 / 180
Apple (French) 220 / 180
Apple (Staten) 220 / 180
Banana 260 / 230
Banana (Mukammal) 225 / 190
Beans 400 / 350
Beets 120 / 90
Borlotti 250 / 200
Cabbage 80 / 40
Carrot 130 / 100
Cauliflower (white) 180 / 150
Chestnuts 550 / 500
Coconut 340 / 340
Cucumber (large) 350 / 250
Cucumber (small) 550 / 450
Eggplant (large) 170 / 140
Garlic 480 / 420

GENERAL

Nairook pharmacy 23672
Al-Salam pharmacy 36720
University pharmacy 42554
Qudoba pharmacy 73375
Khayyam taxi 41541
Basam taxi 811857
Masum taxi 66488
Abi taxi 21127
IRBD:
Dr. Fakhri Haddad 3409
Al Awdeh pharmacy 2357
ZARQA:
Dr. Kallil Abu Hussein 85001
Al Hayah pharmacy (-)
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 66412
Price complaints 66176
Telephone:
Information 12
Overseas calls 10
Jordan and Middle East calls 17
Cable or telegram 18
Repair service 18